Aspicilia fruticulosa (Eversm.) Flagey

RIM LICHEN

FAMILY: Hymeneliaceae.

SYNONYMS: Lecanora fruticulosa

STATUS:

Heritage Program SENSITIVE LIST, ranks: G3 S1

USFWS/ESA: none. STATE OF NEVADA: none. BLM: none. USFS: none. NNNPS: none.

POPULATION CENSUS (NEVADA): 1 occurrence mapped; total estimated individuals unknown, total estimated area unknown. TREND: unknown.

IMPACTS AND MAJOR THREATS (NEVADA): Very sensitive to grazing and other ground disturbances.

INVENTORY EFFORT (**NEVADA**): Not yet systematically surveyed in Nevada. Most recent entered survey 1997. **Years since last entered survey** (percent of mapped records at various survey ages): **0-5 yrs:** 100%.

LAND MANAGEMENT (NEVADA) in decreasing predominance: U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Nevada state lands (?).

RANGE: Elko (?), Humboldt, and Washoe (?) counties, Nevada; also in CO, ID, MT, OR, UT, WY, Asia, and Africa. Potential habitat through Columbia Plateau Ecoregion where grazing is light.

ELEVATIONS RECORDED (NEVADA): 6290 feet (1917 meters).

HABITAT (NEVADA): Areas of high soil pH, often in Artemisia nova and Sphaeromeria argentea habitats. Also in calcareous badlands of volcanic ash deposits. Vagrant lichens often do best in slight depressions where liquid water collects and may keep the lichens hydrated for long periods. Vagrant lichens are usually found among shrubs less than 0.5 m tall, possibly due to inhibition of wind dispersal by larger shrubs. One author has noted very low annual precipitation, but cold, windy, foggy, and overcast winters.

PHENOLOGY: fertile early-spring. **LIFE-FORM AND HABIT:** lichen.

DESCRIPTION: not available (see references).

PHOTOGRAPHS: none known.

ILLUSTRATIONS: McCune and Goward (1995).

SPECIFIC REFERENCES:

McCune, B. and Goward, T. 1995. Macrolichens of the northern Rocky Mountains. Eureka, California: Mad River Press. 208 pages.

Rosentreter, R. 1997. Conservation and management of vagrant lichens in the northern Great Basin, USA. Pages 242-248 in: Kaye, T. N., Liston, A., Love, R. M., Luoma, D. L., Meinke, R. J., and Wilson, M. V. (editors). Conservation and Management of Native Plants and Fungi. Corvallis: Native Plant Society of Oregon.

OF FURTHER INTEREST: Reported new for North America in The Bryologist 96(3), 1993, pp. 333-338.